

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 were pending at the time of the Office action. As a result of this amendment, claims 1-9, and 12-18 have been amended. Claim 19 has been canceled as duplicative of elements existing in claim 1.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's determination that claims 10-12 are allowed and that claims 7-9 and 13-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### **Claim Rejections -- 35 USC §102**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6, and 19 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Miyake et al. The Examiner specifically states that the Applicants recitation of an intended use is not seen as imparting patentability to the rejected claims.

Accordingly, the Applicant has amended claims 1-9 and 13-19 to claim the features of the original intended. The amendment of the claims is not new matter, but merely a narrowing of the subject matter of the claims from any particle mixture to a system comprising a particle mixture and a tire/wheel assembly.

Miyake et al. discloses a method for producing silicon nitride by forming a silicon powder mixture and sintering the mixture at a temperature of 1900 degrees C. Although Miyake et al. discloses that the method may be accomplished using a mixture of two types of silicon powders having independent particle size ranges, nothing in Mayake et al. teaches or discloses that such a mixture would be suitable for a system for equalizing radial and lateral force variations at a tire/road footprint of a pneumatic tire/wheel assembly comprising a pneumatic tire/wheel assembly and a dry solid particle mixture positioned within the tire/wheel assembly.

The independent claims 1, 10 and 11 have also been amended to better define the term "elevated temperatures" in accordance with the specification.

The present invention is considered to be distinguished over Mayake et al. and the present

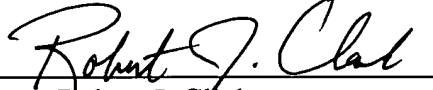
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claims are therefore believed to be in an allowable condition.

Prompt consideration of this application and allowance of the claims are requested. If the Examiner should have any question regarding this application or the amendment, a call to Applicant's attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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